

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----061959Z 088809 /41

O 061947Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7226
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 06117

EXDIS

DEPT PASS HARTMAN IF DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PARM, GW, BR
SUBJECT: FRG-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT: FRG TO
PROCEED WITH LICENSE ISSUANCE.

1REF: STATE 76179

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH STATE SECRETARY HERMES THIS AFTERNOON, APRIL 6, HE TOLD ME HE EXPECTED TO GET OFF TO WASHINGTON THIS EVENING FRG DRAFTS OF PARALLEL FRG STATEMENT TO PRESIDENT'S NUCLEAR POLICY STATEMENT AND A DRAFT STATEMENT AND PRESS GUIDANCE ON ISSUE OF LICENSES FOR BRAZIL. HERMES ANTICIPATED THAT NO FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE OF THE LICENSE ISSUANCE BUT THE STATEMENT AND GUIDANCE WOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO QUERIES WHICH WERE EXPECTED TO BE NEEDED AND USED NO EARLIER "AND ALSO NO LATER" THAN APRIL 8.

2. HERMES AGREED IT IMPORTANT THAT WE BOTH TRY TO MINIMIZE PROBLEMS REGARDING THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES.

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THE FRG HOPED TO LIMIT DEALINGS WITH PRESS TO THE OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL SPOKESMAN AND IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE SAID THE LICENSE STATEMENT CONSISTS OF TWO LONG SENTENCES CONFIRMING (1) THAT LICENSES WERE ISSUED ON APRIL 5 AND (2) THE BLUEPRINTS WERE BEING FULLY CONTROLLED BY IAEA SAFEGUARDS, ETC.. THERE WOULD ALSO BE SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE FOR QUES-

TIONS. HE RECALLED THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HAS ASKED THAT PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE OF LICENSES BE POSTPONED UNTIL APRIL 11. HERMES SAID THIS WOULD NOT BE DESIRABLE SINCE THE FRG WANTED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE QUIET EASTER WEEKEND TO KEEP DOWN PRESS ATTENTION AND CONTENTION. TO DO THIS LICENSES WOULD HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO FIRMS AT LATEST APRIL 8 AFTER WHICH ACTION WOULD BECOME PUBLIC PROPERTY.

3. HERMES STRESSED THAT GERMAN GUIDANCE, WHILE NOT APOLOGETIC, CONTAINED NO CONTROVERSIAL LANGUAGE VIS-A-VIS THE US OR USSR. HE STRONGLY HOPED THAT THE US WOULD ASSIST THE FRG IN KEEPING CONTROVERSY TO A MINIMUM. HE UNDERLINED THAT POINT WOULD BE MADE BY FRG THAT LICENSE ACTION WAS NOT IRREVERSIBLE STEP AND THAT WE WOULD HAVE TIME FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. HE SAID THAT THE BRAZILIANS WOULD BE INFORMED OF THE BRAZIL LICENSE ACTION ONLY AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S NUCLEAR STATEMENT, I.E., ON APRIL 8.

4. TURNING TO THE PARALLEL STATEMENT RELATING TO THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY STATEMENT, HERMES SAID THAT THE GERMAN STATEMENT, TAKING OFF FROM THE PAPER THE CHANCELLOR GAVE TO SECRETARY VANCE, WOULD EXPRESS GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE OVERALL GOALS OF THE

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PRESIDENT'S POLICYIT WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, IGNORE PROBLEMS WHICH, HE SAID, THE US POLICY WOULD PRESENT (CONCERNING NOT ONLY THE FRG BUT MANY OTHER COUNTRIES),

PARTICULARLY AS THE US STANCE MIGHT AFFECT PROGRAMS, SUCH AS REPROCESSING AND BREEDER REACTORS, IN WHICH HEAVY INVESTMENTS HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE. THE FRG STATEMENT WOULD REFER TO DESIRABILITY OF CONSULTATION AND OF FINDING AN AGREED SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS. HERMES SAID THAT, WHILE THE FRG STATEMENT WOULD NOT, UNDER-ESTIMATE PROBLEMS, IT WOULD SEEK TO DEAL WITH "COMMON GROUND" OF WHICH HE ELT THERE WAS MORE THAN THERE WAS OF DIVERGENCE.

5. HERMES RECALLED THAT THE FRG HAD ASKED US NOT TO HANDLE INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS IN THE FORTHCOMING POLICY STATEMENT APRIL 7, AND HE APPRECIATED THAT THIS APPARENTLY WOULD NOT BE THE CASE. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY SOMETHING AS UNSUITED IN THE AMERICAN ENVIRONMENT WHILE AT THE SAME TIME SUITABLE IN A FOREIGN ENVIRONMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID THAT THE US HAS COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS IN CERTAIN SCIENTIFIC AREAS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, AND IF WE WITHDRAW FROM SUCH COOPERATION WE MAY DRIVE OUR PARTNERS INTO OTHER KINDS

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OF RELATIONSHIPS.

6. HERMES CONCLUDED OUR CONVERSATION BY SAYING THAT THE FRG WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO INTENSIFYING CONSULTATIONS, INCLUDING COUNTRIES NOT NOW IN THE NSG. HE THOUGHT WE HAD TO HAVE A MORE OPEN-ENDED ARRANGEMENT SINCE WE COULD NOT KNOW HOW MANY COUNTRIES WERE INTERESTED. IN THAT CONNECTION HE THOUGHT A NSG MEETING WOULD BE UNWISE IN THE NEAR FUTURE SINCE WE NEEDED TO STUDY THE WHOLE PROBLEM IN THE ABSENCE OF THE RUSSIANS BEFORE WE GET INTO THE NSG FORUM.

STOESSEL

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